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MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Director, Central Reference

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SUBJECT : Latin American Trip of [REDACTED]

27 February--16 April 1960

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1. PURPOSE OF TRIP

a. To survey the operations of the Publications Procurement Program in Mexico, Guatemala, Panama, Peru, Chile, Argentina, Uruguay, Brazil, and Venezuela.

b. To survey the availability of publications in Latin America which should be acquired by the Publications Program for CIA and other agencies of the Government which the program services, and to purchase such books as were available and appropriate. To familiarize the Latin American Area Coordinator, Acquisitions Branch, OCR Library with the general availability of publications in Latin America, with the sources of such material, and with bookstores and publishers throughout the area.

c. To acquire publications for the CIA Historical Intelligence Collection.

d. To survey the availability of Chinese Communist publications throughout Latin America and make arrangements for the acquisition of 1960 Chinese Communist publications on a continuing basis wherever possible. This requirement was necessitated by the action of the Peoples' Republic of China which, as of 1 January 1960, has stopped the export of all but a few propaganda publications due, it is believed, to a serious shortage of paper in Communist China. The usual sources of these publications having dried up, it was felt that the increase of Chicom activities in Latin America, and the community of interest which they are trying to develop there, might lead the Chicoms to allow the export of their 1960 publications to Latin America even though they are not generally available in other areas of the world.

2 THE PUBLICATIONS PROCUREMENT PROGRAM

The Publications Procurement Program is considered to be a responsibility of the Department of State under provisions of Section 311 of the Foreign Service Act of 1946, which provides that "The officers and employees of the Service shall, under such regulations as the President may prescribe, perform duties and functions in behalf of any Government agency. . . requiring their services, . . ." Pursuant to the authority of Section 311 of the Foreign Service Act of 1946, President Truman, on 4 June 1951, issued Executive Order 10249, Prescribing Regulations With Respect To Foreign Reporting Functions. Section 2 of this Order provides that the Department of State "shall obtain for any Federal department or agency, through the Foreign Service of the United States, such foreign data as such department or agency may request through the Department of State." "Foreign data" is defined as any data

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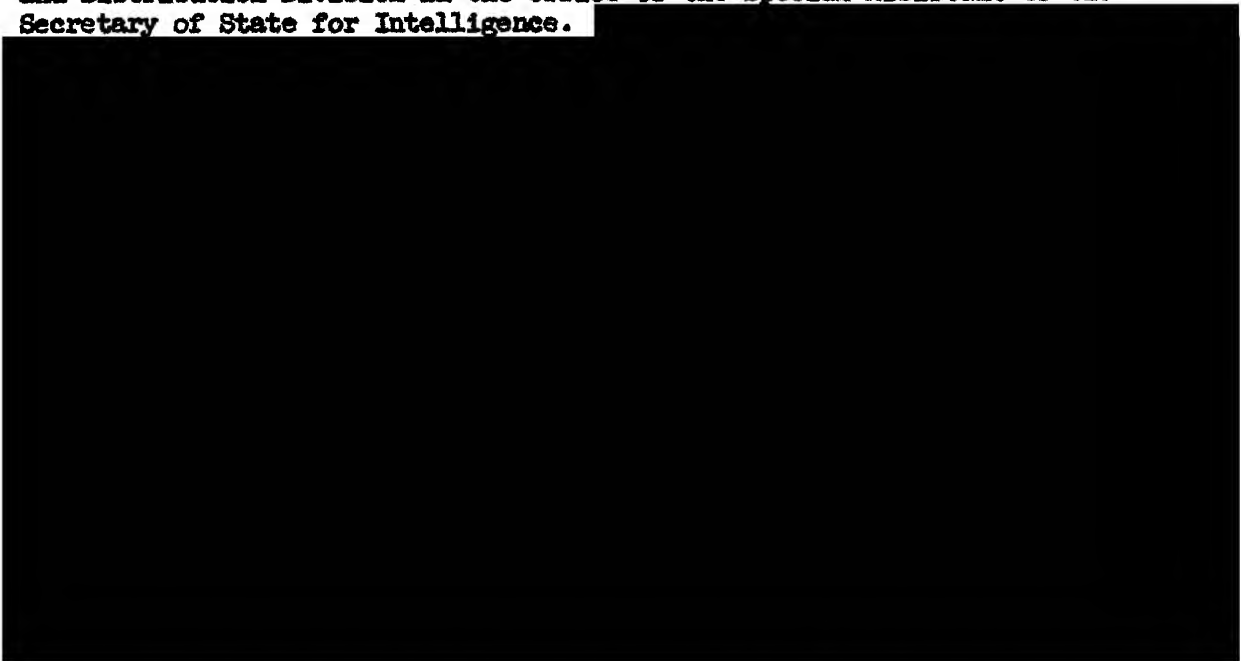
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obtained in foreign countries "including reports, statistics, and publications." In accordance with these provisions, the Foreign Publications Procurement Program was conducted by the Foreign Publications Branch of the Acquisition and Distribution Division in the office of the Special Assistant to the Secretary of State for Intelligence.



The overall guidance and direction of the Publications Procurement Program has been controlled by the Intelligence Collection and Dissemination Division (ICD) under the Director of Intelligence and Research in the Department of State. (A reorganization as of 1 May 1960 may change this designation.)



The Publications Procurement Program covers the publications needs of more than 20 agencies of the Government. However, the requirements of CIA, and CIA expenditures for publications material, account for more than 90 percent of the overall program. Publications are procured in the field by members of the Foreign Service who are designated as Publications Officers, and there is a Publications Officer, who is a member of the Foreign Service, at each Embassy and at many Consulates. There are nine full-time or Regional Publications Officers throughout the world, none of whom are located in Latin America. All other Publications Officers are designated as part-time or ad hoc Publications Officers and perform the publications function in addition to their other Embassy duties.

The Publications Procurement Program in Latin America, by and large, has been so weak and so poorly handled in the field that one of the major purposes of this trip was to talk with the Publications Officers, acquaint them with

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the importance of the program, try to assess the causes of its weakness, and make recommendations for its improvement. In addition, the failure of the Latin American Publications Officers adequately to select and report on the availability of publications in this area made it almost impossible for the Latin American Area Coordinator of ICD/FP to service his customers or to know what publications were available in the area, where they could best be obtained, and what the potential of the area could be in this field. In addition, the weakness of the Publications Program in Latin America made it mandatory that the Latin American Area Coordinator purchase a considerable number of publications on this trip to fill research gaps for the intelligence analysts and operating divisions which would not have existed to such a considerable degree had the program been operating properly. The Curator of the Historical Intelligence Collection also was faced with the same problems and acquired over 200 books for HIC on this trip.

Under the provisions of paragraph 943.12 of volume four of the Foreign Service Manual, the Department of State's responsibility for making required information available to other federal agencies includes the securing of foreign publications. These publications are secured through the Publications Officers at the various Embassies and Consulates. In handling this responsibility in the field, the Publications Officers have three basic functions: processing specific orders; selection of publications on their own initiative against specific requirements set forth in the annual Selection Guide and other pertinent directives; and reporting the availability of publications in general. As a general rule, the handling of the specific orders is performed best, and the reporting function is handled least effectively.

By and large, the specific orders from ICD/FP are processed with reasonable effectiveness throughout Latin America. As a general rule, these specific orders are handled in the Embassies by someone other than the Publications Officer; i.e. usually by the post's General Services Officer, but also occasionally by the Embassy Librarian, local assistants, or other administrative personnel. Nevertheless, specific orders are a part of the function of the Publications Officer and should be carried out under his nominal supervision. There is no reason to change the basic procedure whereby administrative personnel in the Embassies process these specific orders from Headquarters, but a copy of the order should pass across the desk of the Publications Officer. It is our impression that in most of the Embassies we visited, this does not occur. The Publications Officer should see the specific orders so that he is apprised of what is going on, as well as for his own training and guidance as to the needs and requirements of Headquarters. By being so advised, he will then be able to select and report on similar material, and avoid duplicate purchasing of material he may see which has already been ordered from Headquarters through administrative channels. If a Regional Publications Officer is appointed in Latin America, or in those places where direct dealing with Publications Officers in Consulates is authorized, copies of the specific orders (as well as ultimate action on them) should be sent to the Regional Publications Officer or to the Embassy Publications Officer who is nominally responsible for the publications activity in the Consulate within his country.

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Furthermore, Publications Officers should be instructed to stress reporting on the non-availability of specific orders or the non-availability of the desired number of copies. There are still too many instances in which requests for multiple copies have not been fulfilled with no reason reported, leaving Headquarters in the position of not knowing whether such publications will ultimately be forthcoming or are no longer available. This point has been stressed in our briefings of the Latin American Publications Officers.

Paragraph 943.21 of Volume 4 of the Foreign Service Manual provides that the Foreign Service posts "shall keep abreast of the issuance of new publications within their areas of jurisdiction. They shall select and transmit publications meeting the general and specific requirements of the Department." Under State Department procedures, this responsibility is assigned to the Publications Officer, who is charged with the constant review of any books, periodicals, newspapers and pamphlets, through "the examination of bibliographies, publisher's notices, catalogs, and reviews as well as by personal visits to bookstores, newsstands, government agencies, and other sources of published materials." Having done this, the Publications Officer is charged with the continuing selection of appropriate publications for Headquarters, the submission to Headquarters of sample copies of appropriate new periodicals and newspapers, and the maintenance of friendly personal relations with publishers, dealers, and officers of government and private organizations in the publications field.

The selection aspect of the Publications Program in Latin America has ranged in the posts we visited from virtually zero to fair. At no post can it be truly said that the work was being performed in a really satisfactory manner. Those Publications Officers who have been doing a fair quantitative job of selecting material have tended to err too much on the side of selecting purely cultural material which has small value to the intelligence community and most of the other consumers; nor do the Publications Officers exercise sufficient judgment in selecting materials in the fields of politics, economics, and international relations and similar related subjects.

Latin America differs markedly from an area such as Europe in that there is a dearth of formalized bibliographical material. Some countries in Latin America do publish formal national bibliographies, but most are running several years behind the current material; other countries in the area start a bibliographical publication, then the publication date becomes irregular, and most such issuances finally die completely. A few booksellers or publishers' groups put out some sort of bibliographical tools, but the publications are spotty and never terribly complete. Among the reasons for the absence of current bibliographical material is the high cost of paper in several Latin American countries (of which Chile is a prime example), and the apparent absence of sufficient market to justify the cost of publication and distribution. The Publications Officers with whom we spoke are all unaware of the status of any bibliographical tools at their posts, and very few of them had made any arrangements to obtain publishers lists or catalogs. It is a generally recognized quirk of the Latin American book trade that they do not seem to press hard for business, and, while they may mail you a catalog or two, this service slowly peters out. Therefore, in Latin America the Publications Officer

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has no real substitute for personal visits to bookstores and the maintenance of personal contact with various publishers or publishers' groups in order to keep abreast of currently available or forthcoming publications for selection and reporting purposes. We found that many of the Publications Officers do not visit any bookstores in furtherance of the program, nor do they even stop to examine the newsstands and kiosks which abound in the major cities of the area. On our trip, we acquired quite a few useful periodicals, newly published or new to ICD/FP, which are openly sold on the newsstands. These would have been important to select for Headquarters, but the Publications Officers simply overlooked them. For example, we can cite a new Revista Marxista, first published in 1960 in Montevideo, O Movimento Sindical Mundial, first published in Rio de Janeiro in 1960, and about ten new and useful magazines readily available in Buenos Aires alone.

A majority of the Publications Officers we visited had not been briefed on the Publications function before assuming that duty, and it is hoped that our briefings of these Officers at their posts will prove to be beneficial. We also briefed the Ambassador or Minister Counselor at all posts except Guatemala on the importance of the program, and urged their help without being critical. Several agreed that a visit such as ours was quite helpful and should be repeated annually.

On the brighter side, a new Publications Officer has been appointed in Mexico City who appears to be able and vigorous and who has already started to send in selection material. The Publications Officer in Panama appears to be very able and to offer considerable promise, but his appointment preceded our arrival by so short a period that he was awaiting our briefing before beginning activity. Unfortunately, Panama is a poor source of book material, and his abilities will be limited by the comparative un-availability of material. The newly appointed Publications Officers in Montevideo, Sao Paulo, and Caracas also give promise of good performance in three extremely important posts. However, we have stressed in our briefings that there is no substitute for the Publications Officers personally paying periodic visits to the bookstores and kiosks in order to keep abreast of appropriate material for selection. Regrettably, in some of the posts, the attitude of the Publications Officers has been, and is, that it is rather doubtful whether they will have much time to visit bookstores in the light of their other duties, and wherever this is the case, the Publications Program will suffer immeasurably.

It is felt that while the Publications Officers in Latin America must bear the major share of the blame for the inadequate selection of publications material, part of the failure lies in the weakness in CA-1005, the annual Selection Guide furnished them by ICD/FP. This Guide is too comprehensive, as it is aimed at worldwide procurement rather than on the type of material which is available in a given region or country. Because the present Guides are so broad and so general, they should be revamped, simplified, and aimed at requirements for specific regions rather than at the world as a whole before the next one is issued. Actually we found that few of the Publications Officers in Latin America had read the Guide in its entirety, and those who

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had tackled it did not understand it too well. Several of them simply put it aside as too complex, and the same criticism was made of the financial instructions which accompany the Guide. (Particular note should be taken of that part of CA-1005 which deals with the requirements of the Army Map Service. These requirements seem to trouble the Publications Officers considerably, particularly as in virtually all of the Latin American posts there are no Army Map Service funds for selection, and therefore, at best, the Publications Officers can only pick up an occasional gratis item.) While much of the responsibility for poor performance of the selection activity must be borne by the Publications Officers, the universal criticism of CA-1005 leads us to conclude, nevertheless, that some of the fault lies in this instruction.

In addition to the selection function, the Publications Officers, in accordance with paragraph 943.22 of the Foreign Service Manual, are charged with reporting on the availability of publications within the limitations of time and staff. This reporting by the part-time Publications Officers in Latin America has been minimal. It is hoped that as a result of our trip and briefings, the Publications Officers will better understand the urgent need for this type of reporting and will find the time to do more of it in the future.

As indicated above, one of the major reasons that we undertook this trip was to attempt, through briefings at the posts, to step up and strengthen the Publications Program in Latin America. Having now talked with ten Publications Officers in nine Embassies and one Consulate in Latin America, we have reached certain firm conclusions as to the causes of the weakness of the Publications Program there.

The first conclusion is that, almost without exception, members of the Foreign Service look on their ad hoc assignment as Publications Officer with great distaste and perform it rather grudgingly. They see in this function nothing which will in any way advance their professional careers, and unsatisfactory performance of the publications function does not impede their careers or at best produces only the lightest slap on the wrist. They see no tangible results from whatever efforts they may expend on publications procurement, and the whole program has only the most negative impact upon them.

The second conclusion is that, while the publications assignment usually falls to a member of the political section, which seems to be the best place for it, it generally is assigned to one of the junior members of the section who is also assigned a good many other miscellaneous Embassy duties including such functions as biographic reporting officer, protocol officer, or transportation officer in addition to his political duties. The failure to produce a book for the Publications Program is minor to an officer compared to failure to produce an automobile for a waiting and visiting dignitary when the Officer's duties include that of transportation officer in addition to his other work. However, one must face up to the obvious fact that virtually all of the Officers who are assigned to publications procurement work are seriously burdened with their own major function (generally political reporting), and that in addition to their major function they must often be assigned several other Embassy tasks, of which publications procurement is but one. One cannot escape the need of this

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multiplicity of assignments, particularly at a small post. The fact remains, however, that publications procurement is a Departmental function, covered by Departmental directives, and failure to comply with these directives satisfactorily is a dereliction of an officer's duty. Nevertheless, and with full realization of the fact that many of these people are splendid officers, somewhat overworked and their sections often understaffed, they all share a unanimity of approach in that their publications procurement function is low man on the totem pole, and the first thing to be pushed aside when they are busy. What this does to the Publications Program is obvious.

While the above generalities have been true in a vast majority of cases in Latin America, there have been occasional rays of sunshine, largely as a result of our trip. Ambassador Robert C. Hill in Mexico, after listening to our outline of the purposes of our trip and the increasing importance of the Publications Program, appointed a young and vigorous USIA officer to handle the Publications Program. As noted above, several young and newly appointed Publications Officers give promise of being able and reasonably active after having had their functions clarified by our briefings at their posts. In Montevideo, the newly appointed Publications Officer advised us that Ambassador Robert F. Woodward had already on one or two occasions expressed his interest in the program and his desire that the Publications Officer do his best for it.

In summary, we found that the Publications Officer in Latin America who could perform this function satisfactorily and cheerfully were few. There are a few Publications Officers who are willing to perform the task within the caveat of being already overburdened but willing to afford what little extra time they may have to this function. There are a few whose obvious footdragging gave us little hope that we will get anything but perhaps the most obvious items from their posts. As noted above, several of these Officers are unwilling to make the time to perform the publications function passably, as they feel it is an unimportant chore and makes little contribution to their careers. Fortunately, one of the worst of these has now been replaced. Almost to a man, the Publications Officers in Latin America had never set foot in a local bookstore in support of the Publications Program, nor has the thought of such a visit ever occurred to some of them. Yet, as noted above, because of the general absence in Latin America of any current reliable bibliographical tools, there is no substitute for the legwork which should bring the Publications Officer into at least one bookstore a week, and which should require them at least once a month to cover the very excellent Communist Party bookstores which exist in several of the cities which we visited. It would also be useful, as they walk around the city, if they would look at the newspaper stands and kiosks to keep an eye open for new periodicals, many of which it would be important to forward to Headquarters for the use of the analysts and other consumers.

What are the possible solutions to the weak performance of the Publications Procurement function in Latin America? The first solution is to hope that, as a result of the briefings which the Publications Officers received from us on

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our trip, the level of performance will be raised somewhat. However, we felt that at some of the posts which we visited there will be comparatively little improvement. It should also be noted that we have visited less than half of the countries in the area, although, with the exception of Cuba, the major countries have been covered.

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25X1C4a The second possible solution is that Headquarters personnel [REDACTED] make an annual survey visit to each of the posts in the area; or possibly two semi-annual trips, covering South America on one trip and Central America and the Caribbean countries on another. While this thought was put forward by several Ambassadors or Ministers at posts we visited, it would be necessary that the trip be of at least three months duration to perform a survey satisfactorily. It could not be done in less time. We covered nine countries in exactly seven weeks and probably should have had almost another week to avoid the comparative skimping which we did in at least three cities. To cover this area in three months time means that whoever made the trip will be away from his desk longer than he probably should be at one stretch. It would also mean setting a killing pace with virtually no break for the entire trip. Our experience indicates that this would be so, for we had virtually no break during the seven weeks we were away (Sundays often being used for administrative matters). For instance, in Mexico City, several bookstores stay open until midnight; in Buenos Aires several stay open until almost one in the morning. In several other cities, many bookstores stay open well into the evening, and we were usually in them until the last one closed.

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The question can be asked as to whether Latin America is important enough, either politically or in volume of publications, to warrant a full time Publications Officer. We feel that the answer to this question is in the affirmative. Latin America is an area in turmoil. Almost every country is graced with a certain amount of political instability and nationalism is increasing. It bears a lot closer watching than is now being given to it, for both the Soviets and the Chinese Communists are very active in political and economic penetrations of the area with resultant increases in Communist publications. Uprisings in these countries often produce unfortunate reactions

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in the United States Congress, whose members are generally more nervous about problems to the south of us than in other underdeveloped areas. For example, in the short period of seven weeks during which we were in Latin America, the situation in Cuba continued to deteriorate, marked, among other things, by Castro's outrageous charge that the United States had sabotaged and blown up a ship in Havana harbor; a revolt started in Venezuela; there was a small uprising in Bolivia; there was a modified state of siege in Buenos Aires during the congressional elections, which took place while we were there; and there are presidential election campaigns under way in Brazil and Panama. All of these situations produce books, pamphlets, and commentary in periodical literature. The constant economic expansion in Brazil and Venezuela bring forth economic studies and statistics which should be available to the analyst in publication form (and which we have not been receiving). The hemisphere is an important source of Communist propaganda material from the Bloc and from the Chinese Communists. Shortly before we arrived in Montevideo, one airliner arrived from Europe with 200 sacks of such material in its hold. We were told, from the best figures available, that the Soviet subsidy of publications in Montevideo alone probably exceeds over half the entire USIA budget for all of Latin America. Thus, there is in our minds no question that the area is important enough, and the publications are numerous enough, to warrant the appointment of a Regional Publications Officer for Latin America. His presence in the area and his continuity in the post for at least two tours would serve to supervise and better coordinate the activities of the part-time Publications Officers at all of the posts in Latin America and would immeasurably increase the flow of worthwhile publications if the right type of officer were appointed.

It would appear particularly important to make such an appointment at this time not only because of the increase in Latin American Communist Party publications and Bloc propaganda efforts, but particularly because of the present fall off in the export of Chinese Communist publications from the China mainland. We feel that the first area where the Chinese ban may be lifted could well be Latin America because of the community of interest which the People's Republic of China is striving to develop in Latin America. We were told at one post that a Communist Party decision had been reached there to the effect that if local Party funds were only available to translate one book as between a Russian book and a Chinese Communist book, the Chinese book would have the priority.

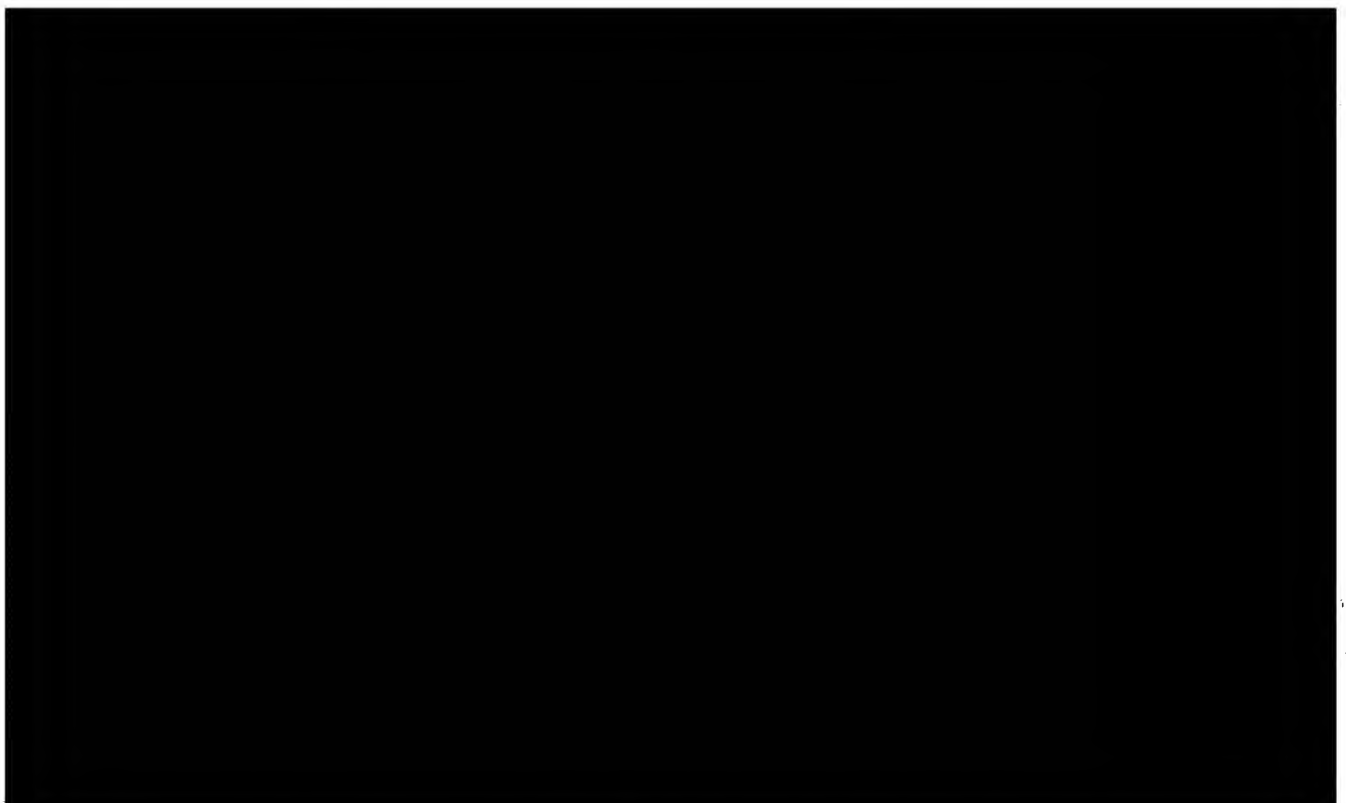
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Finally, the peculiarly lackadaisical business methods of the Latin American booksellers and publishers and the lack of the usual bibliographical tools makes it highly desirable that a full time Publications Officer be placed in Latin America for at least two continuous tours, so that he may come to know and be known by the booksellers and publishers in the area. Virtually none of the present part-time Publications Officers have made or given any indication of making such contacts. It is our belief that the only way in which we will be able to prevent being caught short in the publications field in this vital area is to place a full time, Regional Publications Officer in Latin America, and we so strongly recommend.

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3. AVAILABILITY AND SOURCES OF PUBLICATIONS IN LATIN AMERICA

The publications industry in Latin America varies markedly in size and quality from country to country, and the bookstores vary to the same degree. Without a doubt, Buenos Aires is the largest publishing center in the area, and Argentine publications receive wide distribution throughout Latin America. The second major publishing center is Mexico City, and third in order of importance is Santiago, Chile. However, while Argentine books are available in considerable numbers in every city we visited, and while Mexican publications do achieve a general, although somewhat lesser, distribution in the area, the publications of other countries throughout Latin America are pretty generally restricted to their country of origin. In Brazil, the publications, of course, are in Portuguese; and, from the standpoint of the customers of the Publications Procurement Program, Sao Paulo is perhaps its most important center and of greater significance than Rio de Janeiro. However, Rio is the main source of Brazilian Government publications and will continue to be so until the transfer of agencies to the new capital of Brasilia has been completed. While there were a considerable number of Spanish language publications available in Brazil, there were virtually no Brazilian publications available in other Latin American countries. In addition, it should be noted that many of the bookstores which we visited throughout Latin America carried some small quantity of publications from Spain. The majority of these tended to be in the field of classical literature.

As publications centers of secondary importance in size, one should note Montevideo, Lima and Caracas. Montevideo, however, derives its importance to the Publications Program not so much from the indigenous publications as from the fact that it well may be the most important center in Latin America for the importation and distribution of Soviet and other Communist Bloc literature and propaganda. Panama and Guatemala produce a few publications of interest outside of the newspaper field and government publications. The booksellers in Guatemala City, Panama City, and Colón are very few in number, small in size, and their stores usually combine books with the selling of stationery and school supplies. The countries which we visited (other than Guatemala and Panama) all contain bookstores of which some are restricted to comparatively new books, some handle only secondhand publications, and some carry both.

From the standpoint of availability, Buenos Aires appears to have the largest number of worthwhile bookstores, with Mexico City second, Santiago, Sao Paulo, and Rio third, and Lima, Montevideo, and Caracas with lesser numbers. From the standpoint of the customer of the Publications Procurement Program, and in particular the analysts of the intelligence community, most of the cities we visited offer publications of considerable interest in the fields of politics, international relations, and economics. These publications run the full ideological gamut from right to far left. In addition, one must stress the availability of periodicals of interest throughout Latin America. These also range the full ideological spectrum and are of particular interest in the fields of politics, international relations, and economics. These are available to some extent in bookstores, and to an even greater extent on the newsstands and kiosks which abound on the street corners of Latin American cities. While subscriptions to a great many Latin American periodicals and

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newspapers have been received in ICD/FP over the past years through specific orders placed with our Embassies there, we found and have brought back samples of many new periodicals which have commenced publishing in the last few months, and which appear to have considerable value for the intelligence analyst and other customers of the Publications Program. It should be noted that, in several of the cities which we visited, the standard pro-Castro Cuban periodicals were readily available--in particular Bohemia and Carteles, as well as INRA, the new publication of the Instituto Nacional de Reforma Agraria (National Agrarian Reform Institute).

Of particular importance in certain cities in Latin America are the well stocked Communist Party stores. Of these, the best are Livraria das Bandeiras in Sao Paulo and Libreria EPU (Ediciones Pueblos Unidos) in Montevideo. Slightly behind these two in quality and quantity is Distribuidora Magrija in Caracas. Other Party outlets in Mexico City, Santiago, and Rio do not measure up to these three, either in quantity or quality, although Fondo de la Cultura Popular in Mexico City runs a close fourth.

These stores, particularly those in Sao Paulo, Montevideo, and Caracas, carry an excellent stock of not only local Party material and books by local Communists and fellow travellers on varying subjects of Latin American interest, but also carry full stocks of the standard publications of the Foreign Languages Publishing House in Moscow (including all of the Communist classics), and the publications of the Foreign Languages Press in Peking through the year 1959. While many of these publications are in Spanish, editions in other languages (generally English or French) are sold when Spanish translations are not available. There is comparatively little of this material published in Portuguese. In addition, Mexico City and Montevideo each have a bookstore which appears to be almost purely a Soviet outlet, but with a smattering of Chinese Communist publications as well.

Many Communist publications (both Soviet Bloc and local) are also available, mixed in with the general stock, in a good many of the other bookstores we visited. This is particularly true in the Argentine, where the police have locked and sealed the Communist Party headquarters and the bookstore it contains.

It should be noted that the overwhelming majority of useful publications in Latin America deal with problems and subjects indigenous to that area. We found virtually nothing useful of Latin American origin on other areas of the world. With one or two exceptions, there was nothing useful originating in Latin America on the subject of the Soviet Union or its technological advances. However, the publications available in Latin America on the area itself are of the greatest importance to those analysts and other customers of the Publications Program who are working on Latin American problems, and they are available in such profusion as to require the continual attention of the Publications Officers in making them available to the program's customers.

A detailed country-by-country breakdown describing the major useful bookstores in each country we visited, and their specialities, is appended as Tab A.

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4. ACQUISITION OF PUBLICATIONS FOR THE CIA HISTORICAL INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION
(HIC)

One of the purposes of the trip was to acquire publications for the CIA Historical Intelligence Collection (HIC). This is a special library of overt publications on all aspects of intelligence and intelligence tradecraft, from the earliest days to the present. For special training purposes, it includes books on intelligence in all languages, including translations. [REDACTED] is the Curator of this collection. 25X1A9a

HIC is faced with the same shortcomings in the Publications Procurement Program in Latin America as are the other customers. Although the annual Selection Guide contains a detailed requirement charging Publications Officers with acquiring books for HIC, the Curator of the Collection can recall no instance in which any of the Publications Officers in Latin America have selected books for HIC in response to this requirement or reported on their availability. Their response to specific order requests, however, has generally been satisfactory. In the course of briefing the Publications Officers at the various posts, we called their attention to the need for selecting books in support of the HIC requirement, and it is hoped that some of these may now be forthcoming. 25X1A9a

In the course of this trip, [REDACTED] purchased something in the neighborhood of 250 volumes in Spanish and Portuguese for HIC. We estimate that almost 60 percent of this material are Spanish or Portuguese translations of books published originally in English, French, Russian and other languages, and estimate that about 40 percent of them were original Latin American publications. It is hard to assess the final figure in this regard, as less than half the books have arrived in Washington at the present writing.

25X1A9a The fact that [REDACTED] could acquire so many books for HIC on this trip is a further example of the fact that the Publications Program has not been operating satisfactorily in Latin America either in selecting or reporting on the availability of publications.

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5. PROCUREMENT OF CHINESE COMMUNIST PUBLICATIONS

One of the most important purposes of this trip was to attempt to ascertain whether there were available in Latin America any Chinese Communist publications published after 1 January 1960. The publications desired were those other than the purely propaganda issuances such as China Reconstructs, China Illustrated, Women of China, Evergreen, and the Peking Review, all of which are still readily available in 1960 issues.

The reason that this survey was undertaken in Latin America was that, as of 1 January 1960, there had been a tremendous fall off in the export of Chinese Communist publications. To cite some examples as to the scope of this fall off: in 1959, CIA obtained subscriptions to 351 distinct periodical titles from Hong Kong; while in 1960 we are getting eight; in 1959 we had 258 Chinese Communist periodical subscriptions placed through Berlin; while in 1960 we are getting five. The comparable figure through Prague is 99 to three; our 86 Chinese Communist periodical subscriptions have dropped from 86 to zero in Warsaw; and in Paris, the 36 newspaper and periodical subscriptions we received in 1959 have now been reduced to zero. Overall, the 1960 subscriptions to Chicom newspapers and periodicals, other than the purely propaganda titles, have probably fallen off about 75 percent. Thus it can be seen that the intelligence analysts and other users charged with the analysis of Chinese Communist publications in all fields, including political, economic, scientific and technical, are at a serious disadvantage due to the present fall off in the export of these Chinese Communist publications.

It is believed that this fall off is due to a paper shortage in the People's Republic of China, resulting from the increase in the internal demand for reading material to bolster the anti-illiteracy campaign on the mainland. In this connection, one notes the Chicom "read the books movement," which requires political units in the schools to promote a "bumper harvest" of student reading; and the "study campaign," which requires Chicom Party workers to persuade the populace to study and read. Given this drive on illiteracy and other efforts to increase the educational level of the population in the People's Republic of China, and given a comparative shortage of newsprint, two things happened. The first was that there was some adulteration in the quality of the paper in those propaganda magazines which came out on slick paper. Some of these now appear in 1960 editions on noticeably cheaper stock with resultant decrease in the quality of photographic reproduction. The second result has been the complete 1960 ban on the export of all but the purely propaganda type of Chicom publications.

We felt that the Chinese Communist attempt to establish a basic community of interest with Latin America, and the ascendancy of the Chinese Communist movement in that area, might allow the export of their publications into Latin America in 1960 in spite of the general ban elsewhere, or that there might be sufficient traffic between the two continents so that a series of publications exchanges might be in the making. Such has not proven to be the case. The same general ban on the export of Chinese Communist publications for 1960 exists in Latin America as elsewhere. No stores in the hemisphere are carrying any of the 1960 Chicom publications, other than the purely

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propaganda publications noted above, such as China Illustrated, China Reconstructs, Peking Review, Women of China, Evergreen and a few others. These latter are available in profusion in many bookstores in most of the Latin American countries, as well as on newstands in many of the major cities.

In 1959, CIA received more than 3300 Chinese Communist books and monographs, of which some 50 percent were cultural, 20 percent were scientific and technical, and 15 percent each were political and economic. While it is still too early to measure the complete size of the fall off in this type of 1960 Chicom publication, it can be stated that they are not now available in any of the bookstores in Latin America. The profusion of Chinese Communist books and monographs published by the Foreign Language Press in Peking are present in large quantities in all of the Communist Party bookstores of Latin America, as well as in many other stores, but none of these publications are dated later than 1959. Many of them exist in Spanish translations in the various stores noted in Tab A of this report. But where the text of Chinese Communist works are not available in Spanish, they are often carried by these stores in their English or French versions as published in Peking. The major fact to note is that they do exist in considerable numbers in many countries of Latin America in editions published through 1959.

In querying the various Communist Party bookstores in Latin America for 1960 Chicom publications, each in turn reported that they did not have any. It was apparent that this was the truth, and not an attempt on the part of the bookseller to conceal anything, for these booksellers are in business to sell, and they appear willing to sell to any customer in the store without regard to his political or national affiliation. Many of the booksellers expressed regret that they did not have these 1960 publications and were unable to account for their non-availability. Many were puzzled and reported that they normally received these publications, but had not received any 1960 editions. They had written Peking to inquire concerning their lack, but had received no response. Only one bookstore, Livraria das Bandeiras in Sao Paulo, Brazil, had put a finger on the answer. They told us that their initial reaction was that the fall off was due to administrative inefficiency in Communist China; that they realized that the books had a long distance to come, that sometimes this took time, and they felt that this was a temporary aberration. Then this bookseller pointed out to us, and asked whether we had noted, the deterioration in the quality of the paper in many of the Chinese Communist propaganda periodicals and finally they stated that they thought that the real reason was due to the possibility of a paper shortage in China. However, only this one Party store had reached so astute a conclusion.

Thus it appears that, until there occurs some change in the internal situation in Communist China, covert assets will be the major source of supply for these Chicom publications during 1960.

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7. RECOMMENDATIONS

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2. DD/I briefings of outgoing Ambassadors should include a mention of the importance of the Publications Program to the Intelligence Community and urge the Ambassador's support of the Program at his Embassy.

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4. If a Regional Publications Officer for Latin America is not appointed, a representative from ICD/FP should make an annual survey trip at least to the major book centers in the area.

5. The processing of orders for specific publications from ICD/FP to the field can continue to be handled by administrative personnel in the Embassies, as at present. However, the Publications Officers should be advised of these specific orders and keep abreast of them to a much greater extent than they now do. Publications Officers should advise ICD/FP of the non-availability of material requested in specific orders or the non-availability of the desired number of copies.

6. The selection of, and reporting on, available publications by the Publications Officers in Latin America must be improved. The Publications Officers should visit bookstores on a regular basis, as well as keeping an eye on the newstands and kiosks for new periodicals. In particular, the very excellent Communist Party outlets should be well covered.

7. The entire attitude of the Publications Officers towards their duties in this field must be improved. Publications procurement cannot be considered the least of their functions if the Program is to operate satisfactorily in Latin America. In that the Program is covered by State Department directives stemming from a Presidential Executive Order, these directives must be complied with, and the Publications Officers should find the time to do so.

8. The annual publications selection guide (CA-1005 for F/Y 60) must be simplified and made more understandable. It should be prepared on a regional basis, rather than on a world-wide basis as at present. Its accompanying documents, such as the fiscal instructions, should also be rewritten.

9. The selection funds at each post should be turned over in a lump sum to the Publications Officers as a petty cash fund, where the Embassy regulations permit, so that the Publications Officer does not have to go to the

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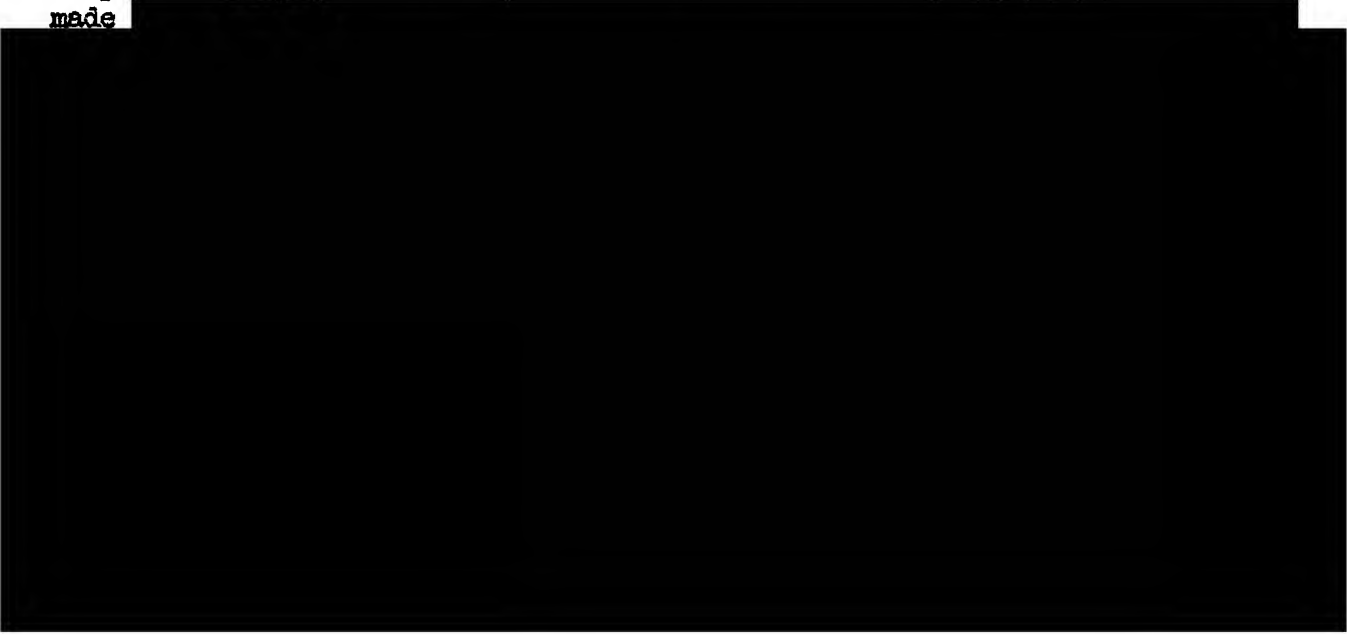
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fiscal officer every time he buys a book or periodical. The Publications Officer can then account periodically to the Embassy fiscal officer. This will simplify the work for all.

10. ICD/FP should communicate directly with the Publications Officer in the Consulate at Sao Paulo, and this Officer should be given his own selection funds independent of Rio de Janeiro. This is recommended because of the importance of Sao Paulo as a publications center, and the impending decline of Rio as a major center for publications. The Minister/Counselor at the Embassy in Rio has approved this arrangement, and steps should be taken to implement it.

11. As long as the present Chinese Communist ban on the normal export of their publications continues, the Publications Officers should exercise special vigilance in watching for their appearance in bookstores and on newstands throughout Latin America. (However, at the present time, this does not promise to produce many publications, and therefore temporary arrangements have been made



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The following pages contain a general evaluation of the availability of publications in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela. Also included is a detailed analysis of the more useful book stores in the capital cities of these countries (and Sao Paulo) visited by [REDACTED] on their trip, February-April 1960.

An asterisk (*) before the name of a bookstore indicates that it is an outlet which carries a significant quantity of Communist or pro-Communist material. Where such a store is an outright Communist outlet, controlled either by the local party or a Bloc nation, this is so stated.

The term "general store" indicates that the outlet carries a diversified stock, including such material as reference books, dictionaries, serious political and economic works, books on international relations, school books, university texts, novels, poetry, art, etc.

The term "kiosks" is used to indicate newsstands or other open air stands, usually individually located on street corners or in arcades in a block of stores; sometimes clustered in a sort of specialized market, usually called a Feria del Libro. Such kiosks are often the best outlets for Communist publications aimed at the local workers, and they are often the source of out-of-print and other hard-to-find material. Latin American cities abound with such kiosks, and they are worthy of special attention, not only for this type of material but also for the many periodicals and newspapers (which bookstores often do not stock) not always available on regular subscription. Usually not named, and without an official street address, these kiosks are highly important sources of publications throughout Latin America.

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ARGENTINA

A) General Availability

Seven days were devoted to briefing, surveying and purchasing in Buenos Aires. Due to the intervening weekend, only six days were actually available for our canvass of the bookstores, but many stores were open until late in the evenings (a few as late as 1 AM) and, because of the great number of stores, the extent of the publishing industry, and the geographical spread of the city, we customarily worked until the last store had closed.

Argentina is undoubtedly the publishing center of Latin America. Despite the recent internal strife and the consequent disruption of the normal patterns of business and life, it retains its preeminent place in the field of publishing. Argentine books are to be found in quantity throughout Latin America, rivalled only by Mexican publications and some few Chilean works (neither of which really approach the Argentine in sheer quantity outside their own borders; Sao Paulo, while also a major center, restricts its sales to Brazil and possibly Portugal, because of the language difference). Everything is published in Argentina, from the sleaziest paperbacks to the finest books and periodicals in the fields of politics, economics, medicine, law, philosophy and literature. Argentina is the only Latin American country, for example, producing economic and political periodicals of hemisphere-wide significance in any quantity, and is one of the few to produce more than one news periodical of the class of the US publications "Time" and "Newsweek." Here, too, are to be found many of the more important works of US, European and other Latin American authors, both in the original language and in translation. Some of these latter publications are imported, but many (if not most) are locally produced editions. However, a provision of Argentine law, we are told, tends to restrict the import-export trade in books. That is, while Argentine books may be generally exported and foreign publications can usually be imported, there are certain restrictions particularly on the re-export of imported books. More than one dealer informed us that they were unwilling to undertake the shipment of publications direct to the US or other countries because of the difficulties involved in getting the necessary permits, particularly to export foreign publications which the book-seller stocks.

The recent crackdown by the Argentine government on the local Communists has severely limited, but by no means put an end to, the publications activities of that political group. There are on the local market many publications which, if not actually Communist, are of a very radical Leftist line and adhere closely to the thought patterns of the Communists. In addition, nearly every kiosk and newstand in the city carries Soviet Bloc and Chicom propaganda publications such as URSS, Revista de GDR, China Reconstruye, etc. The Soviet Embassy, we were told, has been and continues to be very active in pushing the distribution and sale of this latter type of material.

Anti-Communist publications, too, appear in relatively large quantity. AGORA is a major publisher of this type of material, mostly in translation of US titles. AGORA maintains a large and well-organized establishment, but sells only to the bookstores and not to the public. This firm, for example, produces

a Spanish language abridgment of Dallin's Soviet Espionage.

An interesting development in the area of availability is the recent organization of a publishers' cooperative, operating under the name CODILIBRO, which offers through one central source the product of approximately fifteen Argentine publishers. This group plans to open at least one retail outlet in Buenos Aires in the near future, but at present it acts only as a clearing-house for orders of books of its member firms. CODILIBRO is currently being supervised by a Mr. Jean-George Kirchheimer, owner of the Libreria Mandragora (specializing in the sale of French publications) and a former member of the French Military Government staff in Germany. According to Kirchheimer, the CODILIBRO cooperative undertakes to sell its members' publications but exercises no editorial control over their offerings. As a consequence, the association members range from quite conservative to quite radical Leftist in their publishing policies and in the material they offer for sale. A CODILIBRO catalog, plus separate catalogs of the individual members, were provided by Mr. Kirchheimer, who further informed us that CODILIBRO (Suipacha 612, Buenos Aires) is prepared to ship books abroad and has, indeed, already made some sales in Mexico.

Periodical publications, totally aside from newspapers, abound in Buenos Aires. Sample copies of about ten publications new to ICD/FP were acquired and will be circulated to Washington analysts. While a few of these are apparently publications of long standing of which we were previously unaware, many are totally or relatively new titles of which only one or two issues have appeared. Among these were such publications as Situación (a new Leftist monthly of political and economic commentary; very anti-US and closely follows the Communist line; Issue No. 1, March 1960, is predominantly Prensa Latina material); Expresión (a quarterly political review of the Communist-front Liga Argentina por los Derechos del Hombre -- Argentine League for the Rights of Man); Revista de Política Internacional (a conservatively inclined monthly review of international politics which appears friendly to the US); Clave (a leftist, probably Socialist, monthly review of politics and economics); and Suma (a new economic review published by the Instituto de Cultura Economica, Buenos Aires).

Buenos Aires also features a small shop specializing in dictionaries and grammars in all languages. Although small in size, the shop has an excellent and varied stock of this material. The owner informed us that he is fully prepared to supply any dictionary or grammar available anywhere in the world in any combination of languages. He further informed us, with considerable pride, that there were only three other such establishments in the world, one each in New York, London, and Paris. This shop, known as LA CASA DE LOS DICCIONARIOS, advertises dictionaries in thirty different languages, and states that he is prepared to ship books abroad on request.

B) Retail Outlets

The following are a few representative samples of the many excellent sources in Buenos Aires. No purely Communist outlet was found operating openly at this time.

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- 1) CASA DE LOS DICCIONARIOS
Tucuman 844

Specializes in dictionaries and grammar; see Section A, above, for further comment.

- *2) GODILIBRO
Suipacha 612

A cooperative distributorship for about 15 Argentine publishers; political slant ranges from far Right to far Left; see Section A, above, for further comment.

- *3) LIBRERIA TABARE
Corrientes 1650

A secondhand book shop; section in rear has large, well-organized, neatly segregated collection of Communist works; most from FLPH (Moscow), but some local also; good source for this material; good source for out-of-print and other hard-to-find older books.

- 4) EDITORIAL AGORA
S. Salguero 32

Publishing house (not a retail store) who normally sells only to dealers, but can be (and was) persuaded to sell direct to us); specializes in books exposing Communism and Soviet duplicity; good material.

- 5) EDITORIAL KRAFT
Reconquista 319-327

A publisher and general store dealing largely in the purely cultural material. However, publishes 4-volume "Anuario Kraft," an Argentine yearbook of the Who's Who type; previously published an international yearbook, but this is now defunct. These are the best, and almost the only, annuals of this type available in Latin America -- the suspended international edition may be revived in the future.

- *6) LIBRERIA ESOP
Corrientes 579

An excellent general store; carries some pro- and some anti-Communist material; store remains open until midnight or 1 AM daily except Sunday.

- 7) LIBRERIA EL ATENEO
Florida 340

Good general store; large stock but poor staff; much law, many dictionaries, good assortment of political and economic, as well

8) KIOSKS

Kiosks and newstands dot the city. Avenida Florida, closed to vehicular traffic during the day, has many both on street and in adjoining arcades; many more on Ave. 25 de Mayo. Kiosks carry publications mentioned in Section A, above, and many others of possible interest; nearly all stock Soviet and Chicom propaganda pictorials and cultural periodicals.

C) Bibliographic Aids

In common with most of Latin America, reliable bibliographic references are very scarce in Argentina. The Boletin Bibliografico Nacional, previously published by the Ministerio de Educaci3n, has ceased publication "temporarily", but no definite word was available on its expected revival.

Two new publications in this field have started up. One, the catalog of the Camara Tecnico del Libro (publication bears same name), lists publishers and bookdealers specializing in technical books only. Its periodicity is uncertain at this time, but it is likely to be a quarterly. The Publications Officer has sent sample copies to Washington. The other bears the title Biblos and is the trade journal of the remaining (non-technical) publishers. We were unable to obtain copies while in Buenos Aires, but have requested the Publications Officer to obtain and forward this publication. The Camara Tecnico Del Libro is located at Venezuela 668, Buenos Aires, while the non-technical group (known simply as Camara Del Libro) is located at Sarmiento 528, Buenos Aires. Local reports are that relations between these two trade associations are not of the best, and each disparages the other's publication.

Again, even in this principal publications center of Latin America, adequate coverage can be obtained solely by physical canvassing of the bookstores and kiosks due to the lack of proper bibliographic tools. Many publishers offer sporadic lists of current offerings, and copies were obtained wherever possible. The CODILIBRO catalog offers a fairly wide selection, but even this does not include all of the publications available from its members. An adequate, nationwide bibliographic reference simply does not exist at the present time.

BRAZIL

A) General Availability

Being somewhat pressed for time at this juncture in our trip, we acceded to geographic convenience and visited Sao Paulo prior to Rio de Janeiro. These two cities will be discussed separately.

Sao Paulo is, despite the triteness of the expression, a rather fabulous city. The economic development here is far better described as an explosion than as a mere expansion; Sao Paulo is, industrially and economically, the "tail that wags the Brazilian dog." In consequence, Sao Paulo is, beyond question, the major publishing center of Brazil, and one of the major publishing centers of Latin America. In comparison, and with the sole exception of official government publications (many of which are also available in Sao Paulo), Rio de Janeiro pales to insignificance. Not only books but many excellent periodicals in the fields of economics and politics are published here. Here, too, we found one of (if not the) best-stocked and best-organized Communist Party bookstores in all Latin America....only the Party stores in Montevideo and Caracas approach it in excellence. Due to the limitation on our time, (and in the mistaken impression that Rio would be more fruitful than it in fact proved to be), we were able to devote only three days to Sao Paulo. Suffice it to say that, as a result of an intensive if rapid survey, we have arranged to reinstate a Publications Officer at Sao Paulo and provide him with independent selection funds. (Rio has concurred in this arrangement).

Rio de Janeiro, aside from the official government publications, actually has little to offer. Only a few publishers operate here, and most privately published material comes from Sao Paulo sources. We found only one really good bookstore in Rio, although there are many stores and kiosks throughout the downtown area and in Copacabana. One dealer in Rio specializes in Russian-language publications of the Foreign Languages Publishing House (FLPH), Moscow, but the local Communist Party bookstore is perhaps the poorest we encountered anywhere, and, indeed, many general stores in other Latin American cities carried a greater quantity and variety of Communist publications. Rio does, however, remain the best source of government publications, (and will continue to be so until all the moves to the new capital at Brasilia are completed). The Getulio Vargas Institute is a local source of good-quality economic and political studies. An interesting facet of the Rio book market (see below), is the series of publishers' kiosks in the Praça da Armas, about one block from the US Embassy.

B) Retail Outlets

The following are the more fruitful outlets in SAO PAULO:

- *1) LIVRARIA DAS BANDEIRAS
Rua Riachuelo 342

One of, if not the, best Communist Party stores in Latin America; excellent stock of local, Soviet, Bloc and Chicom material; Chicom material except cultural items, not more recent than December 1959.

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No difficulty entering and buying here. NB:- Comparatively little material found in Portuguese except local products; both Soviet and Chicom sources provide most material in Spanish, French or English; dealer says Portuguese editions slowly increasing from these sources.

*2) LIVRARIA BRASILIENSE
Rue Barao de Itapetininga, 93-99

A good general store; some Communist and pro-Communist material; good on dictionaries, law, economics, current politics; carries some periodicals; much anti-Communist material.

3) LIVRARIA FREITAS BASTOS
15 de Novembre, 62-66

An excellent general store; carries books about Communism (mostly anti-Communist) but no Communist books per se. Excellent law collection.

4) KIOSKS

The city is liberally spotted with newstands and kiosks; most carry some Communist material and some anti-Communist material. A survey in the industrial quarter did not reveal any special concentration of local Party or other Communist material here. Most such items are available on kiosks (and in stores) in the center of the city.

The following are the more fruitful outlets in RIO DE JANEIRO:

1) LIVRARIA LER
Rua Mexico 31-A

An excellent general store; some few pro-Communist publications, much anti-Communist material; good for dictionaries, general economics and political items, law, general cultural items.

2) KIOSKS

The city has many kiosks and newstands, all of which carry some pro- and some anti-Communist material; pro-Communist material less in evidence here than in Sao Paulo.

Worthy of special mention, the series of about eight kiosks located in a row on the Praça de Armas. Each major publisher has a tiny, triangular stand here and this is probably the best source of Communist publications (among others) in Rio; the Communist publisher, EDITORIAL VITORIA, has a kiosk here. (VITORIA's actual store, the local Party outlet, is located at Rua Juan Pablo Duarte 50 and is perhaps one of the poorest collections of useless and outdated Communist material we encountered. Their kiosk is, although not too good, far more fruitful.)

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*3) INTUNLIV

Rua Senador Dantas 93 (upstairs)

Specializes in Russian-language publications of FLPH, Moscow; owner is outspokenly pro-Communist and pro-Soviet; appears to be a Russian immigrant.

C) Bibliographic Aids

In common with the rest of Latin America, Brazil is extremely deficient in bibliographic aids of any sort. The only reasonably good publication in the field is the Boletim Bibliografico Brasileiro of the Uniao Brasileira de Escritores, which last appeared in October, 1959. We were unable to discover definitely if this publication would be published again in 1960. The newly appointed Publications Officer in Sao Paulo, where the organization is located, will look into the matter further. A very few publishers and bookstores make available a sporadic and spotty list of current offerings. These are not only irregular and unreliable in their periodicity, but extremely limited in their utility and content. Again, there is no substitute for a physical canvass of stores and publishers if this important source of publications is to be adequately covered. This canvassing must be done in both Rio and Sao Paulo, and it would probably be fruitful to make a canvass of the less important center of Porto Alegre (which, due to limitations on our time, we were unable to visit).

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CHILE

A) General Availability

One full week was devoted to briefing, surveying and purchasing in Santiago, which is a fairly active and important publishing center. However, in March, when we were there, the industry was relatively inactive. It appears to be the local practice drastically to reduce activity during their summer months, and we were told that several publishers had new books in their warehouses, or still on the presses, which would not be released for sale until April or May. Nevertheless, all bookstores were open, and we were able to make a goodly number of purchases and canvas more than thirty outlets of varying political coloration, plus numerous kiosks and newstands.

Some Communist and pro-Communist publications, both local and foreign, are available in most bookstores in Santiago. There are, however, four outlets which devote their shelves almost entirely to this material, one of which is the kiosk in the doorway of the Chilean Communist Party headquarters. Here, as in the other major Communist outlets, we encountered no difficulty in entering and making purchases of some local Chilean Communist Party publications, despite the obvious fact that we were "gringos." Indeed, even in the Chilean-Soviet Cultural Institute, although we did not get past the second floor reception desk, we were politely received and were able not only to purchase books but to get answers to a few questions on availability of other publications. At the Chilean-Communist Chinese Friendship Society, however, we made no purchases for the double reason that the atmosphere was something less than cordial and few publications of any sort were in evidence. In Santiago, as elsewhere on this trip, we found that nothing was available from Communist China after 1 January 1960 except for the cultural propaganda publications which are still available throughout the world (i.e., China Reconstructs, China Today, etc.).

In checking on the availability of certain bibliographic aids which had not been received in Washington for some time, we discovered (as in Lima) that local publishing costs, largely due to the extremely high cost of paper, were prohibitive and were having a distinct braking effect on the local industry. We were informed, however, that the President of Chile (Alessandri) was taking steps to break up the existing monopoly in the paper industry, and that this was expected to lower costs and stimulate the publishing industry. Illustrative of the high paper costs, we were told by one of the principal bookdealers that a small blank pad of white paper (somewhat smaller than our standard 5 x 8 pad) cost him the equivalent of twenty-two cents (US).

B) Retail Outlets

In Santiago, the more fruitful outlets are all within a few blocks of the Embassy. The following, while representing only a small portion of the outlets visited, are typical of the more fruitful sources.

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*1) LIBRERIA AURAUCO
Santo Domingo 216

Almost exclusively Communist material; mostly Soviet, some local, and a very few Chinese Communist publications. Much of the Chicom material is in English.

*2) LIBRERIA MARIA DARRE
Teatinos 416

A kiosk in the doorway of the Chilean Communist Party headquarters. Small but good stock; mostly local Party publications with some Soviet - no Chicom material noted. No problem entering and buying.

*3) LIBRERIA ORBE
Agustinas, between Estado
and San Antonio (Galeria
Imperio, 255)

Described as Communist outlet, but more a general store with some Soviet and local Communist material; only Russian-Spanish Grammar available in town found here (a translation of a British English-Russian grammar). Can't fairly describe this as a Communist outlet, but owner, a former member of the International Brigade in Spain, is described as a Communist by some Chileans.

4) LIBRERIA/EDITORIAL DEL PACIFICO
Ahumada 57

A good general store; large diversified stock of reference works, political and economic publications, and cultural material.

5) LIBRERIA PAX
Huerfanos 756-772

A good, varied general store; many technical books, mostly translations of U.S., British, German, French authors.

*6) FERIA DEL LIBRO (Local #7)
Alameda Bernado O'Higgins
(Between Estado and the
Biblioteca Nacional)

Consists of several open air stands. Stand ("Local") #7, directly on street at corner nearest Biblioteca, very heavy on used Communist publications; has some new books, many current periodicals, all Communist; most sold very cheaply and customers consist of workers and school children for the most part. Excellent source for local and Soviet materials, some Chicom material.

7) LIBRERIA UNIVERSITARIA
Alameda Bernado O'Higgins 1058

The bookstore of the Universidad Nacional de Chile. A good general store with some Marxist publications mixed in with texts. One book on Castro, one economic periodical, one new Marxist periodical found here (among others).

C) Bibliographic Aids

High publishing costs, largely due to the aforementioned high cost of paper, has eliminated many of the previously existing bibliographic publications. Only one private publisher (ZAMORANO y CAPERAN, Compania 1015) still publishes such a work, and this, the Servicio Bibliografico Chileno, appears only quarterly and is by no means a complete listing. Senor Zamorano told us that they may be forced to suspend publication if paper costs continue at their current high level, but the firm is reluctant to see the end of what is now the oldest work of its kind in continuous existence in Chile. Zamorano has agreed to mail copies of this publication direct to the Department of State in Washington.

The Biblioteca Central (which formerly published the Anuario de Publicaciones Periodicas Chilenas) not only no longer publishes the work, but no one there seemed even to remember that they had ever published it. Neither the Biblioteca Nacional nor the Biblioteca Universitaria admitted to any knowledge of the supposedly annual list of the Deposito Legal, a governmental listing of all publications printed in Chile during the year. Editorial del Pacifico, Editorial Horizonte, Biblioteca de la Universidad Nacional, and the Servicio Nacional de Estadisticos y Censos have all apparently suspended publication of their annuals.

Some few publishers (notably Editorial del Pacifico) publish a list of current offerings at irregular intervals. A few of these dealers' "catalogs" were acquired and the Publications Officer was requested to obtain and forward future issues when, and if, they appear. In short, adequate coverage in Santiago can only be had by a physical canvass of the stores at frequent (due to the limited editions in which most books appear) and regular intervals.

GUATEMALA

A) General Availability

As was anticipated, we found very few useful publications available in Guatemala at this time, other than the daily newspapers. The main objective of the stop here was to brief the new Publications Officer on his procurement functions, particularly in view of the increasing Communist efforts to re-establish themselves in this country and the possible increase of Communist publications in Guatemala.

A visit was made to the University of San Carlos Press, where we found that a current publications list is available (copies obtained) and that supplementary sheets are issued at infrequent and irregular intervals. Titles listed consist mostly of brief theses and an occasional book authored by students or professors of the University. We are informed that copies of these publications are supplied on an exchange basis with several US universities, and that copies are sent to the Library of Congress. The Publications Officer was provided with a copy of this current list and requested to scan subsequent supplements (which the University Press has promised to send him) for any titles of possible interest to the program.

Official government publications constitute the only other worthwhile material currently available. These are supplied to the Embassy gratis and sent to the US by the appropriate attaché (political, economic, etc.). The Publications Officer will supply extra copies of any deemed suitable for our special needs. Most will be gratis.

B) Retail Outlets

There are, currently, no retail outlets worthy of mention in Guatemala. The average "libreria" is a combination book, stationery, and school supplies store, or carries a few general books and a heavy stock of schoolbooks. The Publications Officer will periodically visit the few stores in town in order to obtain any significant publication that may appear, but most of the stock is imported. It is anticipated that he will find few, if any, books not available in Mexico or Argentina, their usual sources of publication.

C) Bibliographic Aids

Other than the very limited list of the San Carlos University Press, no bibliographic aids of any sort are known to exist in Guatemala. The Publications Officer has been alerted to acquire and transmit any that may appear in the future.

MEXICO

A) General Availability

One full week was devoted to briefing, surveying the availability of, and acquiring, publications in Mexico City, the capital, where, typical of most Latin American countries, the overwhelming majority of Mexican publications are actually published and the remainder are generally available. Mexico is one of the major publications centers in Latin America, and one finds here not only Mexican publications, but also those of several other Latin American countries, as well as many US and European publications. Predominating are those of Mexico and the Argentine.

Communist publications, both locally produced and imported, are widely available throughout the city. Most general bookstores and kiosks carry a fairly large and varied stock of Communist and Leftist but non-Communist publications, as well as those of a more conservative hue. There are, in addition, about ten stores in the downtown area (where most of the bookstores are located) which carry a significantly greater proportion of Communist and pro-Communist material than do the other general stores. Soviet, Czech, GDR and Chinese Communist publications make up the bulk of the imported material, but also available are publications of the Argentine and Spanish Communists; some Chilean, French and Italian materials of this type are also to be found; and a growing quantity of Cuban anti-US and Communist-oriented periodicals are available. The purely propaganda Chicom periodical material is available here, but non-propaganda Chicom publications later than the Fall of 1959 do not appear to be on the general market.

Mexico produced many good political and economic publications, several industrial and trade periodicals, and a small but useful quantity of basic reference works of the "annuals" type. Several bookstores and publishers have available, on an irregular basis, lists of currently available stocks, but good bibliographic aids and references are quite scarce. Few, if any, publishers or bookstores can be relied upon to send copies of their lists to either the Embassy Publications Officer or to Washington, making it imperative that the Publications Officer or some other procurement official make frequent and regular calls on these sources in order to keep abreast of the field.

B) Retail Outlets

The following is a list of the more fruitful bookstores we visited. It by no means represents anything approaching the total number of stores inspected, and is, indeed, only a small part of the total number of retail outlets in Mexico City.

*1) FONDO DE LA CULTURA POPULAR
Ave Hidalgo 75-107

(AKA: Editorial Popular). The Mexican Communist Party (PCM) outlet; good stock of local Communist and pro-Communist, Soviet, Chicom, etc. materials; no problems on purchasing here; standard Communist "classics" and local items such as Party statutes, minutes of congresses, etc.; good stock of anti-US non-Communist items.

* 2) LIBRERIA JUAREZ
Ave. Juarez 102

A branch of this store, called LIBRERIA ZAPLANA, is located at Calle San Juan de Letran 41-H; good source of general material; excellent source of local, Spanish, Argentine Communist and pro-Communist material; also stocks anti-Communist material in good proportion.

* 3) LIBRERIA NAVARRO
Calle Seminario 12-B

Originally believed to have been set up by the Mexican Communist Party, Enrique Navarro apparently has fallen out with the Party but is believed to be an adherent of Lombardo-Toledano's Partido Popular (PP); mostly old material but some recent books; heavy on Communist and Communist sympathizer material; has (some on shelves, most in private loft which he is reluctant to show customers) huge collection of Communist, pro-Communist, and anarchist publications going back some 30 years in both Latin America, Spain and elsewhere; has indicated willingness to sell this entire private collection to some library or private collector.

* 4) LIBRERIA DE CRISTAL
Ave. Juarez; in park
across from Palacio de
Bellas Artes. Alameda Central

Probably the best store for new books; an excellent general store; large stock of both pro- and anti-Communist material; good for general reference works; good stock of Argentine and other publications, including translations of US and other foreign, non-Spanish titles.

* 5) LIBRERIA CESAR CIGERON
Calle del Seminario, 10

Good general store; good stock of pro- and anti-Communist material; good general reference works; will mail books, lists, etc. if requested.

6) LIBRERIA PORRUA HERMANOS
Esq. Argentina y Justo Sierra
(with branch at Ave. Juarez 16)

Good general stores; many law books in Juarez branch; publishes a limited bibliographical reference work on an irregular schedule, but gives impression not very reliable in mailing this.

*7) INSTITUTO INTERCAMBIO CULTURAL
MEXICANO-RUSO (IICMR)
Paseo de la Reforma, 128

Bookstore of the Soviet-Mexican cultural and friendship society; offers Communist "classics" (Marx, Lenin, etc.), much cultural material, art work, pro-Soviet propaganda; this is largely material published by Foreign Languages Publishing House, Moscow and is generally available to us from Moscow.

8) KIOSKS

Mexico City, especially the downtown area between the Ave. Reforma and the Zocalo, abounds with newstands carrying newspapers and magazines of all types and political coloration. A sort of "Thieves Market" operates on Sunday mornings in one of the poorer districts and contains several tables of second-hand publications, many of which are Communist and pro-Communist.

C) Bibliographic Aids

Bibliographic aids in Mexico are few and far between. Some of the larger retail outlets and a very few publishers offer a partial list of current stocks (usually only latest releases) on a very irregular basis. These, however, cannot be considered true bibliographic publications and their receipt is virtually entirely dependent on the Publications Officer making frequent and regular calls on the store or publisher preparing such a list. One fairly regular list is Boletin Bibliografico Mexicano published on a vaguely quarterly basis by Porrúa Hnos. (See Item #6, Section B, above). This list, which Porrúa has promised to send to the Embassy Publications Officer (and which the latter has been alerted to solicit), is rather limited in scope and does not give truly national coverage.

A recent publication of the Centro Mexicano de Escritores, entitled Catalogo De Periodicos Mexicanos, is on hand in CIA. The publishers express the vague hope that this well-organized (but limited in scope) publication will be periodically revised and brought up to date. They make no commitment, however, on the periodicity of such revisions, and past experience has shown that the majority of such publications in Latin America die young and unannounced; it remains to be seen if this reference will survive.

PANAMA

A) General Availability

Panama, like Guatemala, is not a major source of publications. Few, if any, books are printed here and locally produced periodicals have been short-lived. Panama is, however, reported to be a distributing center for Soviet Bloc and Chicom publications and for Chicom films. These do not appear to be available on the open market, however, and it is unlikely that the Publications Officer will be able to supply such items.

B) Retail Outlets

Panama City and Colon have only a few bookstores, none of which can be considered of significant value at the present time. Some imported Mexican and Argentine books are available, as well as many US books and other publications. It is felt, however, that the particularly active and interested Publications Officer recently assigned here might utilize a small annual selection fund of about \$25.00 for the purchase of an occasional book or new periodical and to backstop his procurement of government publications where insufficient copies are available gratis.

C) Bibliographic Aids

No bibliographic aids are known to exist in Panama at this time.

PERU

A) General Availability

Approximately five days were spent in Lima in briefing the Publications Officer, surveying the local market and purchasing publications. (Because of the intervening weekend only four days were actually available for work in the stores.) Lima, while not a publications center of the calibre of Buenos Aires, Mexico City, Santiago, or Sao Paulo, a fact which appears in part due to the high cost of paper and printing, is still a fairly active center in terms of this activity. General stores stock a fairly good number of books by Peruvian authors and, while many are of a cultural nature, a certain percentage are of the types useful to the Intelligence Community. As elsewhere on the continent, Argentine books appear to predominate and here, for the first time, Chilean publications begin to appear in some quantity. Some political and economic periodicals are published here.

Most, if not all, bookstores in Lima carry a certain amount of Communist and pro-Communist material, but no outlet was found that was clearly a primary source of this material. The local Communist Party newspaper, Unidad, is not available on subscription, appearing in the hands of street vendors only and at irregular intervals. Arrangements were made with the Publications Officer to obtain this publication on a more regular basis than heretofore, and copies have already begun arriving in ICD/FP under this arrangement. Other than this newspaper, no local Communist Party publications were encountered, but the customary Communist "classics" are available in most stores.

B) Retail Outlets

As is common in most Latin American cities, the principal bookstores are clustered in the central area of the city, principally within a two-block radius of the Plaza San Martin (although a few are found further out). Some 20-25 stores and many kiosks were inspected. The following brief list contains names and descriptions of the more noteworthy of these stores.

1) LIBRERIA JUAN MEJIA BACA
Azangaro 722

A good general store; law, basic reference works; some political and economic works both pro- and anti-Communist.

2) LIBRERIA "LA UNIVERSIDAD"
Nicolas Pierola 639

Perhaps the best general store in Lima; carries both pro- and anti-Communist material (mostly anti-); heavy on local authors; good selection of dictionaries.

*3) CENTRAL DE LIBROS Y REVISTAS
Jiron Camana 681

Cannot be called a Communist outlet in true sense, but had more material than others; most Communist material were the "classic" works; fair general store; had some Bloc propaganda magazines of pictorial type (Sov, GDR, China).

4) GARCILASO
Belem 1083

A good general store.

C) Bibliographic Aids

The Biblioteca Nacional (National Library) of Peru, located in Lima, published an Anuario Bibliografico Peruano in 1957 which covered the years 1951/52, and a subsequent edition in 1959 which covered the years 1953/54. We are informed that it is hoped that subsequent editions will appear, but that this is by no means certain or even very probable. Beyond this, one finds only a very limited number of booklists put out by a few local stores. These are irregular in their periodicity, and very limited in their scope. Copies of the few available were obtained, and the Publications Officer was requested to forward any subsequent lists that become available.

URUGUAY

A) General Availability

Four days were devoted to Montevideo. While a minor city as far as actual publishing goes, Montevideo looms large in Latin America as one of (if not the) major point-of-entry for Soviet and Bloc propaganda. Some Chicom material was found, but only the usual propaganda publications carried 1960 dates.

Here, too, we found one of the best organized and well-stocked Communist Party stores in Spanish-speaking Latin America, plus another excellent store which dealt almost exclusively with Soviet and other Bloc country publications.

While a relatively small city, Montevideo is liberally supplied with bookstores and newstand-kiosks. We covered about 18 stores and numerous kiosks here. Some few Uruguayan publications, some Chilean and Spanish, many Argentinian, and a few Brazilian publications make up most of the available stock in Montevideo stores aside from the imported Communist material. No difficulty was encountered in entering and purchasing from any Communist source in the city.

B) Retail Outlets

The following were among the more fruitful outlets in Montevideo.

*1) EDICIONES PUEBLOS UNIDOS (EPU)
Colonia 1567

This is the local Party store; stock almost entirely Communist material -- local Party items, much Soviet and other Bloc items, fairly good Chicom stock (thru 1959); one of best Party stores found in Latin America.

*2) ANTEO, Ltda.
18 de Julio, 1333

Another excellent source of Communist material; stock is primarily Soviet, but also had some Chicom (thru 1959); also some few SOVBLOC cultural items. No local Party material noted.

3) LIBRERIA BARREIRO y RAMOS
18 de Julio, 941

An excellent general store; good stock of dictionaries, law, economics, recent political works; some few pro-Communist items, many anti-Communist items; heavy on cultural material.

*4) LIVRARIA LOBATO
San Jose 853

Stock is almost entirely Brazilian publications (in Portuguese); fair, only; reported as Communist outlet, but not very much in evidence when inspected; a source of Brazilian books when one cannot get to Brazil...only such source noted in Spanish-speaking Latin America.

C) Bibliographic Aids

In an area generally poor in bibliographic material, Montevideo is exceptionally poor. The Anuario Bibliografico Uruguayo, previously published by the Biblioteca Nacional (last issue seen by us was 1949 issue, published in 1951), is a dead issue; the librarian at the Biblioteca even had trouble recalling that they had ever published it, and was most emphatic that there were no plans to revive it. Few catalogs or lists of current offerings were found in the various bookstores. EPU (above) had a somewhat dated list of publications offered, in 1959, by Foreign Language Press of Fekin, but no lists of Soviet or other Bloc offerings. This city must be covered by physical canvass of the stores...there is no alternative whatsoever.

VENEZUELA

A) General Availability

Due to the unfortunate conjunction of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and a civil holiday which occurred on the following Tuesday, we were able to get only one working day in the stores in Caracas, as business shuts down tight for the full week. Nevertheless, we were able to cover the main Party outlet and a few general stores, and to get some valid idea of availability in Caracas.

While not a major publishing center (the recent political upheavals and the serious problem of inflation make costs prohibitive and profits uncertain), Caracas does have a small publishing industry, and there are hopes for expansion in the not-too-far-distant future. In addition to the few local publications, Caracas appears to be a good source for imported Communist material (one of Latin America's three best Party stores is located here) from the Soviet Bloc and Communist China, and it appears that an increasing amount of Communist-slanted, anti-US, pro-Castro material is being shipped in from Cuba. Much of this latter material, at the moment, consists of Prensa Latina press releases and the Cuban publications such as "Bohemia," "Carteles," and one or two others.

The local Party store is well-stocked with Soviet Communist material, local Party publications, and some Chicom material (but here, again, no Chicom other than the cultural propaganda items is to be found with dates after December 1959). The clerk in the local Party store states that they have orders for a large amount and variety of 1960 Chicom publications, but that "there appears to be some sort of delay" in getting them; he did not know why this should be so, and hoped for delivery soon.

B) Retail Outlets

There are a fairly large number of bookstores and kiosks in Caracas, many of which carry some Communist material, and often anti-Communist material as well. The more fruitful of these outlets we visited are:

- * 1) DISTRIBUIDORA MAGRIJA
Edificio Eduardo Garcia,
Local #1

One of the three best-stocked Communist Party stores on the continent. Heavy stock of current Soviet publications, some Chicom (up to December 1959), and some local Party material; also carries some anti-US Castro material; stocked the only Spanish-Chinese dictionary found in Latin America (FLP, Pekin). No difficulty purchasing here; store willing to order special items from China or USSR for any customer. Has catalog (copies obtained).

- *2) LIBRERIA CRUZ DEL SUR
Centro Comercial del Este,
Local #11, Sabana Grande.

Fairly good general store; some Soviet classics (Marx, Engels, etc.), but not really a Communist outlet judging from his stock.

C) Bibliographic Aids

Due to the shortage of available working time, it was not possible to check on the availability of the Anuario Bibliografico Venezolano of the Biblioteca Nacional (last seen in its 1947/48 edition and believed defunct), the Boletin Bibliografico of the Banco Central (also believed defunct), or the Boletin de la Academia de Ciencias Politicas. The Publications Officer was requested to look into the matter, but his off-the-cuff opinion was that all three publications had ceased publication.

MAGRIJA (#1, above) offers a catalog at irregular intervals, and copies of the most recent were obtained. Aside from this, there appear to be no bibliographic aids available in Venezuela; other outlets had no catalogs or lists to offer. Here, too, a periodic physical canvass of the stores is essential.

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